How to Establish Your
STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL
A Practical Guide for Implementation

PURPOSE
The Student Advisory Council is the embodiment of Student Voice
By working closely with a group of students representing the school,
all students have an opportunity to have their voices heard. With
help from educators and administrators, the Student Advisory
Council gives students an opportunity to make meaningful change.

CHARACTERISTICS
The Student Advisory Council is representative of the student body,
shares a purpose for school improvement, and is systematic.
A systematic council means there is: time scheduled on the calendar
for meetings, a structured meeting format, strategies for including all
students’ voices, and plans to follow through on student ideas.

STEPS TO STARTING YOUR COUNCIL

RECRUIT STUDENTS
Recruit a diverse group of students. This includes:
- Both traditional and non-traditional leaders
- Inclusion from various clubs, organizations, and classes
- Students with diverse backgrounds (CIT, GT, ELD, SpEd, LGBT…)

ESTABLISH A SYSTEM
How will your council operate?
- Establish a meeting day, time, location, and agenda
- Agree on admittance criteria and member roles
- Set expectations for participation
- Plan for systematically soliciting the voices of all students
- Ensure accountability for follow-through of goals
- Establish what future recruitment will look like

ASK FOR HELP
Contact the WCSD Student Voice office for more help!
There are many examples of how Student Advisory Councils are
being implemented throughout the district.

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